the whole, be proper, when the motive is pure.

To ſupport my opinion I can produce very reſpectable authority; and the authority of a cool reaſoner ought to have weight to enforce conſideration, though not to eſtabliſh a ſentiment. Speaking of the general laws of morality, Dr. Smith obſerves,—'That by ſome 'very extraordinary and unlucky circum-'ſtance, a good man may come to be ſuſ-'pected of a crime of which he was altogether 'incapable, and upon that account be moſt 'unjuſtly expoſed for the remaining part of 'his life to the horror and averſion of man-'kind. By an accident of this kind he may 'be ſaid to loſe his all, notwithſtanding his 'integrity and juſtice, in the ſame manner 'as a cautious man, notwithſtanding his 'utmoſt circumſpection, may be ruined by 'an earthquake or an inundation. Accidents 'of the firſt kind, however, are perhaps ſtill 'more rare, and ſtill more contrary to the 'common courſe of things than thoſe of the 'ſecond; and it ſtill remains true, that the 'practice of truth, juſtice, and humanity, 'is a certain and almoſt infallible method of 'acquiring

'acquiring what thoſe virtues chiefly aim at, 'the confidence and love of thoſe we live 'with. A perſon may be eaſily miſrepre-'ſented with regard to a particular action; 'but it is ſcarce poſſible that he ſhould be ſo 'with regard to the general tenor of his con-'duct. An innocent man may be believed 'to have done wrong: this, however, will 'rarely happen. On the contrary, the eſta-'bliſhed opinion of the innocence of his man-'ners will often lead us to abſolve him 'where he has really been in the fault, not-'withſtanding very ſtrong preſumptions.'

I perfectly coincide in opinion with this writer, for I verily believe that few of either ſex were ever deſpiſed for certain vices without deſerving to be deſpiſed. I ſpeak not of the calumny of the moment, which hangs over a character, like one of the denſe fogs of November, over this metropolis, till it gradually ſubſides before the common light of day, I only contend that the daily conduct of the majority prevails to ſtamp their character with the impreſſion of truth. Quietly does the clear light, ſhining day after day, refute the ignorant ſurmiſe, or malicious tale, which has thrown dirt on a pure character. A falſe light diſtorted, for a ſhort time, its ſha-